(ख) जैविक तथा रासायनिक प्रदूषकों पर आधारित जल गुणवत्ता मापदण्डों के लिए सूचकांक तैयार करने हेतु यह स्कीम शुरू की गई थी।

(ग) किसी नदी की जल गुणवत्ता निर्धारित करने के लिए सूचकांक तैयार किए गए हैं तथा इस प्रणाली को अन्य नदियों पर भी लागू किया जा रहा है।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Noise Pollution in the Capital

1003. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that noise pollution is on the increase in the capital;

(b) whether it is also a fact that constant honking of horns and body beating by operators of Red line buses has also added to the noise pollution in the capital; and

(c) details of general steps being taken to curb noise pollution in the capital and specific action proposed in view of this new development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Increase in traffic and congestion leads to increase in levels of noise:

(c) The steps taken by the Government to control noise pollution in Delhi include:

(1) An action Group has been set up by Delhi Administration to curb noise pollution in Delhi. A study is also being conducted by the Jawaharlal Nehru University to suggest specific steps to curb noise.

(2) Ambient air quality standards in respect of noise for different areas have been prescribed. Noise limits have also been prescribed for automobile, domestic appliances and construction equipment to be adopted at the manufacturing stage. Noise limits for automobiles have to be met by 1992, while those for appliances and equipment are to be met by 1993.

(3) Codes of practice for controlling noise from sources other than industries and automobiles, have been evolved by the Central Pollution Control Board. These include: Public address systems, air-craft operation and bursting of crackers.

(4) Other measures to control noise include: declaration of silence zones, regulating the use of loudspeakers, restrictions and use of loud-horns in vehicle, regulating the movement of heavy vehicles and segregating industries from residential areas.

Air Pollution of Rajghat Thermal Power Station

1004. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government had set October 31, 1992 as the deadline for reduction in the air pollution level of Rajghat Thermal Power Station (RTPS);

(b) whether the Air Pollution Level has been brought down to the desirable level; and

(c) if not, what remedial measures the Government propose to take to prevent the massive pollution caused by the RTPS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The deadline for meeting the prescribed standards for all units has been notified as 31.12.1992.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) A meeting was held on February 18, 1993 to review the status and the Central Pollution Control Board has been directed to monitor the emissions. Delhi Administration is also regularly monitoring the emissions from Rajghat thermal Power Station to ensure proper opera-

tion on wet flyash handling system immediately and implementing the dry flyash handling system by March, 1993.

Conversion of Fishing Port to Coal Loading Port

1005. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tadari fishing port is proposed to be converted into a coal loading port;

(b) whether the local people have opposed the move on the ground that it would pollute the area and affect marine life; and

(c) if so, what decision has been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No such proposal has been referred to the Ministry for environmental clearance.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Agreement between India and U.K.

1006. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether bilateral talks were held with the British Prime Minister during his recent visit to Inida;

(b) whether any agreements were also signed between the two countries during the British Prime Minister's visit; and

(c) if so, the topics discussed and agreements entered into by the Indian Government with the British Government?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) the main issues discussed included all aspects of bilateral relations, developments in europe, in the South Asian and the impact on the international situation after the end of the Cold War and related developments. The exchanges of views also covered bilateral and multilateral economic, commercial, scientific and technical cooperation.

A revised double taxation avoidence agreement between India and the United Kingdom was signed during Prime Minister John Major's visit.

Discussion with British and Russian leaders on Pakistan's role in Militancy

1007. DR. MURLI MONOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have discussed the roal of Pakistan in actively encouraging militancy and terrorism across the border with the British Prime Minister and the Russian President during their recent visits to India; and

(b) if so, what was the reaction of the above Leaders?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Government have apprised the Prime Minister of U.K. and the President of Russia about the facts regarding developments in Jammu & Kashmir and about Pakistan's support to terrorism.

(b) The Prime Minister of UK has called for a cessation of external support for militants in J&K. The President of Russia has conveyed support for India's unity and territorial integrity and its position on Kashmir.

Protest lodged by India with O.I.C.

1008. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have lodged any protest with the members of Organisation of Islamic countries against the resolution passed regarding Ayodhya incidents; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATTIA): (a) and (b) The official spokeman of the External Affairs Ministry on the same day issued